

PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY
HISTORIC SITE SUMMARY SHEET

Survey #: P.G. #68-51 Building Date: 1937
Building Name: Cristofane Building
Location: 3311-3313-3315 Rhode Island Avenue, Mt. Rainier, Maryland
Private/Commercial/Occupied/Good/Restricted

Description

3311-3313-3315 Rhode Island Avenue is a one-story, three-bay brick commercial block with a flat roof. The main (north) facade is sheathed with brown brick and is modulated by brick pilasters with concrete or lime-stone geometric capitals that project above and punctuate an otherwise plain horizontal parapet with metal coping. The main facade is divided into three storefronts, the easternmost being slightly larger than the other two. The two easternmost storefronts (3313 and 3315) have single wood and glass entry doors (at right) attached to large plate glass display windows that are flush with the facade. The entries and windows of these two storefronts are each united by a transom now obscured by sheet metal. The westernmost storefront has a similar configuration but its entrance is at left and there is a transom above the entry door. All three display windows are metal clad and do not appear to be original. Each storefront has non-historic signage.

Significance

The three unit commercial block at 3311-3313-3315 Rhode Island Avenue (Block 1, Lot 9, Roger's Second Addition to Mt. Rainier) is significant as an example of early 20th century storefront construction. The block is undetailed except for its brick pilasters and contrasting capitals that are vaguely Art-Deco in their geometric configuration. As the capitals project above the building's horizontal cornice they add a sense of height to the otherwise broad and undorned small-scale storefronts. Although the display windows appear to be modern, the remainder of the facade has retained its architectural integrity and contribute to the rhythm and character of the commercial area's streetscape. The present commercial block Lot 9 can be dated to 1937 when an improvement valued at \$2,200 was first indicated in assessment records. This prominent site along the Rhode Island Avenue commercial corridor has frequently changed hands. In the period 1936-1937 when the building was apparently constructed, Lot 9 had four owners (see Chain of Title). It is not known which of these built the present building. This commercial block is not the first known improvement at this site. It seems to have replaced an unspecified improvement erected by 1912 that was valued at \$1,000.

**Maryland Historical Trust
State Historic Sites Inventory Form**

Survey No. P.G. #68-51

Magi No.

DOE yes no

1. Name (indicate preferred name)

historic Cristofane Building

and/or common 3311-3313-3315 Rhode Island Avenue

2. Location

street & number 3311-3313-3315 Rhode Island Avenue (U.S. Rt.1) not for publication

city, town Mt. Rainier vicinity of congressional district 5

state Maryland county Prince George's

3. Classification

Category	Ownership	Status	Present Use
<u> </u> district	<u> </u> public	<u>X</u> occupied	<u> </u> agriculture
<u>X</u> building(s)	<u>X</u> private	<u> </u> unoccupied	<u>X</u> commercial
<u> </u> structure	<u> </u> both	<u> </u> work in progress	<u> </u> museum
<u> </u> site	Public Acquisition	Accessible	<u> </u> park
<u> </u> object	<u> </u> in process	<u>X</u> yes: restricted	<u> </u> private residence
	<u> </u> being considered	<u> </u> yes: unrestricted	<u> </u> religious
	<u>X</u> not applicable	<u> </u> no	<u> </u> scientific
			<u> </u> transportation
			<u> </u> other:

4. Owner of Property (give names and mailing addresses of all owners)

name Pok Chol and Bok Hi Yi

street & number 8317 Montpelier Drive telephone no.:

city, town Laurel state and zip code Maryland 20708

5. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Prince George's County Courthouse liber 6238

street & number Main Street folio 615

city, town Upper Marlboro state Maryland

6. Representation in Existing Historical Surveys

title Historic Sites and Districts Plan

date 1981 federal state X county local

depository for survey records Historic Preservation Commission, M-NCPPC, CAB, Rm. 401

city, town Upper Marlboro state Maryland 20772

7. Description

Survey No. P.G. #68-51

Condition

☐ excellent
☒ good
☐ fair

☐ deteriorated
☐ ruins
☐ unexposed

Check one

☐ unaltered
☒ altered

Check one

☒ original site
☐ moved date of move _____

Prepare both a summary paragraph and a general description of the resource and its various elements as it exists today.

3311-3313-3315 Rhode Island Avenue is a one-story, three-bay brick commercial block with a flat roof (see Slide #116). The main (north) facade is sheathed with brown brick and is modulated by brick pilasters with concrete or limestone geometric capitals that project above and punctuate an otherwise plain horizontal parapet with metal coping. The main facade is divided into three storefronts, the easternmost being slightly larger than the other two. The two easternmost storefronts (3313 and 3315) have single wood and glass entry doors (at right) attached to large plate glass display windows that are flush with the facade. The entries and windows of these two storefronts are each united by a transom now obscured by sheet metal. The westernmost storefront has a similar configuration but its entrance is at left and there is a transom above the entry door. All three display windows are metal clad and do not appear to be original. Each storefront has non-historic signage.

8. Significance

Survey No. P. G. #68-51

Period	Area of Significance—Check and justify below			
<input type="checkbox"/> prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-prehistoric	<input type="checkbox"/> community planning	<input type="checkbox"/> landscape architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> religion
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology-historic	<input type="checkbox"/> conservation	<input type="checkbox"/> law	<input type="checkbox"/> science
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> economics	<input type="checkbox"/> literature	<input type="checkbox"/> sculpture
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> education	<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input type="checkbox"/> social/
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> art	<input type="checkbox"/> engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> music	<input type="checkbox"/> humanitarian
<input type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> exploration/settlement	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy	<input type="checkbox"/> theater
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> communications	<input type="checkbox"/> industry	<input type="checkbox"/> politics/government	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation
		<input type="checkbox"/> invention		<input type="checkbox"/> other (specify)

Specific dates 1937

Builder/Architect

check: Applicable Criteria: ☐ A ☐ B ☐ C ☐ D
and/or

Applicable Exception: ☐ A ☐ B ☐ C ☐ D ☐ E ☐ F ☐ G

Level of Significance: ☐ national ☐ state ☐ local

Prepare both a summary paragraph of significance and a general statement of history and support.

CONTRIBUTING

The three unit commercial block at 3311-3313-3315 Rhode Island Avenue (Block 1, Lot 9, Roger's Second Addition to Mt. Rainier) is significant as an example of early 20th century storefront construction. The block is undetailed except for its brick pilasters and contrasting capitals that are vaguely Art-Deco in their geometric configuration. As the capitals project above the building's horizontal cornice they add a sense of height to the otherwise broad and undorned small-scale storefronts. Although the display windows appear to be modern, the remainder of the facade has retained its architectural integrity and contribute to the rhythm and character of the commercial area's streetscape.

The present commercial block Lot 9 can be dated to 1937 when an improvement valued at \$2,200 was first indicated in assessment records.¹ This prominent site along the Rhode Island Avenue commercial corridor has frequently changed hands. In the period 1936-1937 when the building was apparently constructed, Lot 9 had four owners (see Chain of Title). It is not known which of these built the present building. This commercial block is not the first known improvement at this site. It seems to have replaced an unspecified improvement erected by 1912 that was valued at \$1,000.

The storefronts are currently occupied as follows:

3311: Rod and Reel Repair
3313: Ione's House of Style (Beauty Salon)
3315: Mt. Rainier Ice Cream Parlor.

Notes

¹ Prince George's County Assessment Records, E.D. 17, 1937, p. 252.

² Prince George's County Assessment Records, E.D. 17, 1912, p. 113.

9. Major Bibliographical References

Survey No. P.G.#68-51

See Notes, #8

10. Geographical Data

Acreeage of nominated property _____

Quadrangle name Washington East

Quadrangle scale _____

UTM References do NOT complete UTM references

A

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Zone Easting Northing

B

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Zone Easting Northing

C

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D

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E

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F

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G

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H

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Verbal boundary description and justification

List all states and counties for properties overlapping state or county boundaries

state	code	county	code
state	code	county	code

11. Form Prepared By

name/title Howard S. Berger, Consultant

organization Historic Preservation Commission date March 1988

street & number 14741 Gov. Oden Bowie Drive telephone 952-4609

city or town Upper Marlboro state Maryland

The Maryland Historic Sites Inventory was officially created by an Act of the Maryland Legislature to be found in the Annotated Code of Maryland, Article 41, Section 181 KA, 1974 supplement.

The survey and inventory are being prepared for information and record purposes only and do not constitute any infringement of individual property rights.

return to: Maryland Historical Trust
Shaw House
21 State Circle
Annapolis, Maryland 21401
(301) 269-2438

Chain of Title
P.G. 68-51
3311-3313-3315 Rhode Island Avenue

6238:615 16 December 1985 Deed	Jong J. Chung, Ki Mo Chung, Paul K. Chung and Benjamin Chung to Pok Chol and Bok Hi Yi. Grantors convey Lot 9 in Block 1, Roger's Second Addition to Mt. Rainier. Plat recorded BSD1:48, Same obtained from Thomas E. Norris, 4 December, 1982, 5612:282.
5612:282 4 December 1982 Deed	Thomas E. Norris to Jong J. Chung, et. al. Grantor conveys. Grantors conveys Lot 9 in Block 1. Same obtained from Alva R. and Felix E. Cristogane, 20 February, 1978. 4893:531.
4893:531 20 February 1978 Deed	Alva R. and Felix E. Cristofane to Thomas E. Norris. Grantors convey Lot 9 in Block 1. Same obtained from Ethel Simpson, 12 May, 1937, 471:275.
471:275 12 May 1937 Deed	Ethel Simpson to Alva R. and Felix E. Cristofane. Grantors convey Lot 9 in Block 1. Same obtained from Edward T. and Hallie Lindner, 3 May, 1937, 475:65.
574:65 3 May 1937 Deed	Edward T. and Hallie Lindner to Ethel Simpson. Grantors convey Lot 9 in Block 1. Same obtained from Jo M. Jones and William W. Jones, Jr., 28 May, 1936, 445:164.
445:164 28 May 1936 Deed	Jo. M. Jones and William W. Jones, Jr. to Edward T. and Hallie Lindner. Grantors convey Lot 9 in Block 1. Same obtained from James B. and Carmen M. Evans, 23 September, 1932, 391:72.
391:72 23 September 1932 Deed	James B. and Carmen M. Evans to Jo. M. Jones. Grantors convey Lot 9 in Block 1. Same obtained from Charles B. Hager, et. al., trustees, 31 December, 1930, 360:142.
360:142 31 December 1930 Deed	Charles B. Hager and James N. Hughes, trustees, Ernest H. and Lillie May Shinn to James B. Evans. Grantors convey Lot 9 in Block 1. Same obtained from Thomas R. and Harriet E. Welch, 31 August, 1922, 182:370.
182:370 31 August 1922 Deed	Thomas R. and Harriet E. Welch to Ernest H. and Lillie May Shinn. Grantors convey Lot 9 in Block 1. Same obtained from William C. and Minnie M. Urwiler, 3 May, 1919, 143:54.

- 2 -

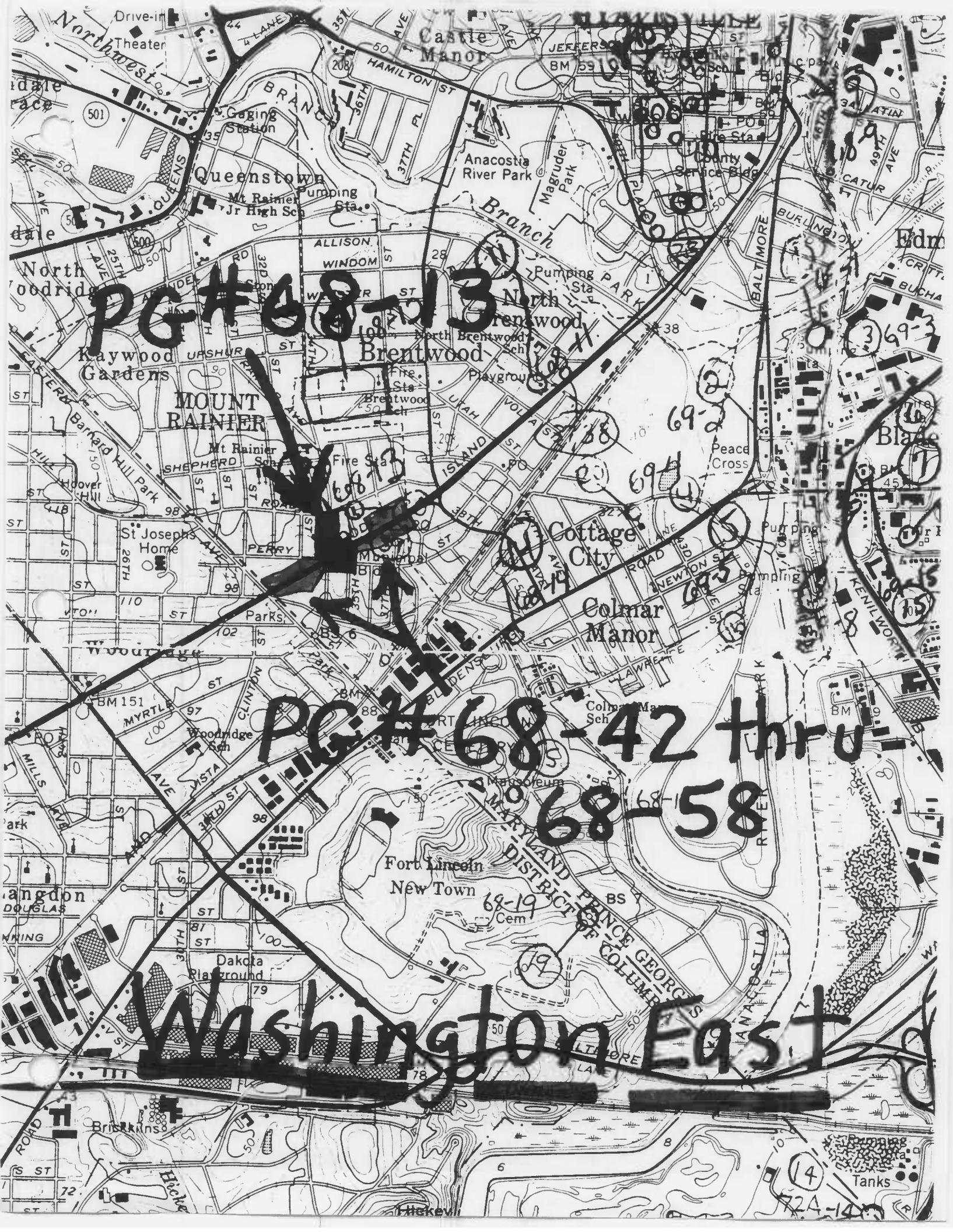
143:54
3 May 1919
Deed

William C. and Minnie M. Urwiler to Thomas R. and
Harriet E. Welch. Grantors convey Lot 9 in Block 1.
Same obtained from James C. and Blanche R. Rogers,
20 March, 1919, 138:245.

138:245
20 March 1919
Deed

James C. and Blanche R. Rogers to William C. and
Minnie M. Urwiler. Grantors convey Lot 9 in Block 1.
To clear title, this deed is made.





PG#68-13

PG#68-42 thru
68-58

Washington East



PG # 68-51

Cristofane Building

3311-15 Rhode Island Ave.

Prince George's County, MD

Howard Berger

Fall 1987

N

Neg: MD Historical Trust

Annapolis, MD